

# SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM NFHS LEADERS TOOLKIT





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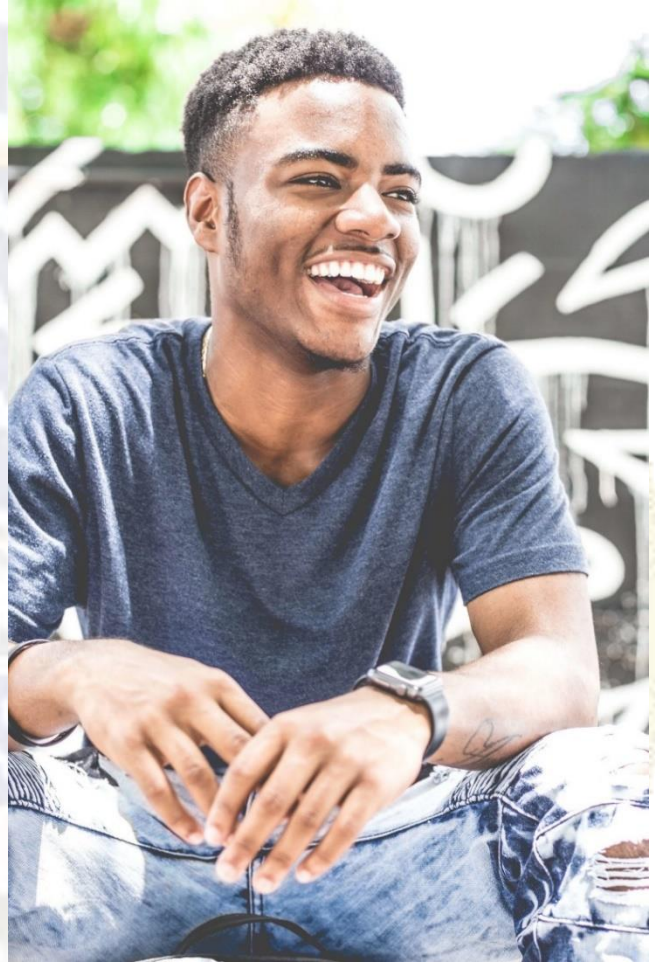


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# Introduction

The Selective Service System (SSS) values the dedicated leadership and influence your organization provides to the young men involved in athletic programs nationwide. Serving as a central component in the development of your community, our Agency would like to elaborate on the opportunities provided to young men when registering with the Selective Service System.

The NFHS Leaders Toolkit is a resource utilized among athletic directors, coaches, and administrators. Each section will provide information to promote registration and raise awareness of this requirement. The Selective Service System continues to deliver inspiring and positive messaging to our communities, outlining the benefits associated with registering.



The support provided in helping communities learn this essential civic duty is invaluable to the future of our youth. Thank you for providing this vital information to your community and educating the public on the value of registering with the Selective Service System.

# Who We Are

The Selective Service System has been a distinguished part of history for over a century, spanning throughout eras of conflict, as well as peacetime. Our small but extraordinary mission is to provide personnel during a time of national crisis; in short, the Selective Service System is our Nation's best insurance policy. Federal law requires all men ages 18-25 who are U.S. citizens and those who have dual citizenship living abroad to register within 30 days of their eighteenth birthday.

Selective Service registration ensures our government is equipped with the task force needed in the event of a national emergency and to register men and maintain a system that, when authorized by the President and Congress:

- (1) Rapidly provides personnel in a fair and equitable manner*
- (2) Manages an alternative service program for conscientious objectors*

The Military Selective Service Act (MSSA) requires men to register within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Once a man turns 26, he is unable to register with the Selective Service System and may become ineligible for the following:

- Employment with the Federal government
- Some student loans, scholarships, and grants
- Free job training under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Millions of Federal and State government jobs
- A streamlined process for citizenship

# How to Register

Men ages 18-25 can register one of the following ways:

- Online by visiting [sss.gov/register](https://sss.gov/register) (must have Social Security Number).
- Using the printable registration form <https://www.sss.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Form-1-Redesign-inside.pdf>.
- At any U.S. post office by filling out the SSS Form 1
- Some Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) offices when obtaining a driver's license (visit [sss.gov/register/state-commonwealth-legislation](https://sss.gov/register/state-commonwealth-legislation) to learn more)



# Who Must Register

| Category   |     |
|--|-----|
| All male U.S. citizens born after Dec. 31, 1959, who are 18 but not yet 26 years old, except as noted below:   | Yes |
| Military Related   |     |
| Cadets at the Merchant Marine Academy  | Yes |
| ROTC Students  | Yes |
| National Guardsmen and Reservists not on active duty / Civil Air Patrol members  | Yes |
| Delayed Entry Program enlistees  | Yes |
| Men rejected for enlistment for any reason before age 26   | Yes |
| Separatees from Active Military Service, separated for any reason before age 26  | Yes |
| Members of the Armed Forces on active duty (active duty for training does not constitute "active duty" for registration purposes)  | No  |
| Students in Officer Procurement Programs at the Citadel, University of North Georgia, Norwich University, Virginia Military Institute, Texas A&M University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University | No  |
| Cadets and Midshipmen at Service Academies or Coast Guard Academy  | No  |
| Immigrants   |     |
| Permanent resident immigrants (USCIS Form I-551)   | Yes |
| Refugee, parolee, and asylee immigrants  | Yes |
| Undocumented immigrants  | Yes |
| Dual national U.S. citizens  | Yes |
| Lawful non-immigrants on current non-immigrant visas. A complete list of acceptable documentation for exemption may be found at <a href="#">DocumentationList.pdf (sss.gov)</a>                                  | No  |
| Seasonal agricultural workers (H-2A Visa)  | No  |
| Confined   |     |
| Incarcerated, or hospitalized, or institutionalized for medical reasons  | No  |
| Handicapped, Physically or Mentally  |     |
| Able to function in public with or without assistance  | Yes |
| Continually confined to a residence, hospital, or institution  | No  |
| Transgender People   |     |
| U.S. citizens or immigrants who are born male and have changed their gender to female  | Yes |
| Individuals who are born female and have changed their gender to male  | No  |

# Benefits of Registration

The benefits accompanied by registering with the Selective Service System are paramount to a young man's life. To date, approximately 17 million men have already registered and have benefited from opportunities including student loans, scholarships, and grants, and more than 4 million federal and local government jobs.

## ***Federal Job Training***

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) offers programs that can train young men seeking vocational employment or enhancing their career. This program is only open to those men who register with the Selective Service System. Only men born after December 31, 1959, are required to show proof of registration.

## ***Federal Jobs***

A man must be registered to be eligible for jobs in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government and the U.S. Postal Service. Proof of registration is required only for men born after December 31, 1959.



# Raising Registration Awareness: Outreach Letter

Our Agency has comprised an example letter that can be utilized as a tool to be distributed among teachers, administrators, or superintendents. This letter will help the Selective Service System mission as we continue to communicate the importance of registering men in a fair and equitable manner.

[Organization/Contact Name],

Throughout communities nationwide, young men are unintentionally discounting one of our Nation's most important civic duties; to register with the Selective Service System (SSS).

Just like voting is a civic duty, registering with the Selective Service System is equally valuable and provides many opportunities and benefits for young men. Our small but extraordinary mission is to provide personnel during a time of national crisis; in short, the Selective Service System is our Nation's insurance policy. To date, approximately 17 million men have already registered with the Selective Service System and benefited from opportunities that include:

- *Student loans, scholarships, and grants*
- *Millions of Federal jobs & nearly 500,000 U.S. Postal Service jobs*
- *Streamlining the process for citizenship*

It is our mission to continuously register men in a fair and equitable manner. Please consider our call to action, and explain to the young men involved in your life the significance of registering with the Selective Service System. It is your Country; please take one minute to protect it.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]



# Raising Registration Awareness: Social Media

*This section can be utilized as a tool to bring registration awareness to young men through various social media platforms. We have listed several social media examples as a guide.*

| Topic/Fact                 | Sample Facebook Post  | Sample Twitter Post  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Who needs to register?     | <p><i>Do your students need to register with the Selective Service? Watch and share this quick video to discover who is required to register and the benefits associated with registration.</i></p> <p><i><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKr6a4bGs5M">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKr6a4bGs5M</a> to learn more.</i></p>        | <p><i>Watch and share this quick video to find out who needs to register with Selective Service. Visit:</i></p> <p><i><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKr6a4bGs5M">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKr6a4bGs5M</a> to learn more.</i></p>                         |
| Remind players to register | <p><i>As fall semester kicks off, remind your players to register with Selective Service. It will keep them eligible for student loans and some athletic scholarships. Visit <a href="https://www.sss.gov">sss.gov</a> to register today!</i></p>   | <p><i>Coaches, remind your players to register with Selective Service at <a href="https://www.sss.gov">sss.gov</a>. It will keep them eligible for student loans and for some athletic scholarships.</i></p>   |
| Message to parents         | <p><i>With the fall semester fast approaching, are you wondering how to keep your son eligible for Federal jobs when he graduates? Watch Uncle Sam explain at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44ITserOq7Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44ITserOq7Q</a></i></p>   | <p><i>Are you wondering how to keep your son eligible for federal jobs when he graduates?</i></p> <p><i><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44ITserOq7Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44ITserOq7Q</a></i></p>  |
| Message to coaches         | <p><i>Fellow coaches, we want our players to succeed on and off the field in life. Make sure they're set up for success by reminding them to register with the Selective Service. This keeps them eligible for benefits like athletic scholarships, grants, and loans. Go to <a href="https://www.sss.gov">sss.gov</a> to learn more.</i></p> | <p><i>Make sure your players are set up for success by reminding them to register with Selective Service. This keeps them eligible for benefits like some athletic scholarships, grants, and loans. Go to <a href="https://www.sss.gov">sss.gov</a> to learn more.</i></p> |

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## ***What is Selective Service System registration?***

Registration helps us maintain a list of names to draw in case of a national emergency requiring rapid expansion of our Armed Forces. By registering all young men, the SSS ensures that a future draft would be fair and equitable.

**NOTE:** Registering with the SSS does not mean you are joining the military.

## ***Why do we need the Selective Service System if a future draft is unlikely?***

America's leaders agree that despite the success of the All-Volunteer Force, registration with Selective Service System must continue as a key component of national security strategy.

## ***Why aren't women required to register with Selective Service?***

Selective Service law as it's written now refers specifically to "male persons" in stating who must register and who would be drafted. For women to be required to register with Selective Service, Congress would have to amend the law.

## ***Can men under the age of 18 register for the Selective Service System?***

Yes. The Selective Service System accepts early registrations as young as 17 years and 3 months. If an applicant registers early, Selective Service will hold their information until 30 days before their 18th birthday. At that time, Selective Service will process their registration and the registrant will receive a registration acknowledgment card in the mail confirming their Selective Service registration.

## ***Does the Selective Service System share any information that would indicate a man's immigration status?***

The Selective Service System has not now, nor in the past, collected or shared any information which would indicate a man's immigration status, either documented or undocumented. SSS has no authority to collect such information, has no use for it, and it is irrelevant to the registration requirement. Consequently, there is no immigration data to share with anyone.

## ***How does a person determine if they are registered with the Selective Service System?***

If an individual is unsure of their registration status, visit [sss.gov](https://sss.gov) and click "*verify registration*." The tab will prompt the individual to enter their last name, social security number, and date of birth. This will provide the registration status with a copy of their registration acknowledgment letter form. If they are not successful in verifying their registration status online, please call the SSS Registration Information Office at 1-847-688-6888.

***Who is exempt from registration?***

There are few cases when a man is exempt from the registration requirement. Men who are exempt do not have a Selective Service System registration number and are in compliance with federal law. The few individuals who are exempt from this requirement are those on current non-immigrant visas. A complete list of acceptable documentation for exemption may be found by visiting: <https://www.sss.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/DocumentationList.pdf> .

***What is the penalty for not registering?***

Failure to register with the Selective Service System is a violation of the Military Selective Service Act. A conviction for such a violation may result in imprisonment for up to five years and/or a fine of not more than \$250,000. However, the most likely result is the loss of federal benefits tied to SSS registration. If a draft is ever needed, it must be as fair and equitable as possible. For every young man who fails to register, another man would be required to take his place in service in the event of a draft.



# Historical Timeline of the Selective Service System

The Selective Service System has advanced considerably from its original conception, and while military conscription has been traditionally used in the United States since the American Revolution, young men have not been called for service or draft in nearly fifty years.

If you would like to learn more about Selective Service's history, please visit [Historical Timeline | Selective Service System : Selective Service System \(sss.gov\)](https://www.sss.gov/historical-timeline)



